



**AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS**

In accordance with Rule 1.121, a complete claim listing is presented below.

A status identifier (Original), (**Currently Amended**), (Previously Amended), (**Cancelled**), or (**NEW**) precedes each claim. Only the present changes in amended claims are shown by strikethrough (deleted material) and underlining (added material).

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1. (Previously Amended) A multi-layer thermoformable plastic film comprising:
- an outer layer comprising a blend of a very low density polyethylene, ethylene vinyl acetate, and a compatibilizer, wherein said very low density polyethylene is an ethylene  $\alpha$ -olefin copolymer having a density between 0.900 and 0.915 g/cm<sup>3</sup> and said compatibilizer is an ethylene  $\alpha$ -olefin copolymer having a density less than 0.900 g/cm<sup>3</sup>;
  - an intermediate layer comprising a mixture of nylon copolymer and an amorphous nylon;
  - an inner layer comprising a polyolefin or ionomeric polymer; and
  - at least one adhesive that bonds said outer, intermediate, and inner layers together.

2. (Previously Amended) The multi-layer thermoformable film of Claim 1, wherein the outer layer comprises a blend of:
- about 30% to 50% by weight very low density polyethylene, based on the total weight of the outer layer;
  - about 30% to 45% by weight ethylene vinyl acetate, based on the total weight of the outer layer; and
  - about 10% to 24% by weight of a compatibilizer, based on the total weight of the outer layer.

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3. (Previously Amended) The multi-layer thermoformable film of Claim 1, wherein the outer layer comprises a blend of:  
about 44% by weight very low density polyethylene, based on the total weight of the outer layer;  
about 36% by weight ethylene vinyl acetate, based on the total weight of the outer layer; and  
about 15% by weight of a compatibilizer, based on the total weight of the outer layer.
4. (**Cancelled**) The multi-layer thermoformable film of Claim 1, wherein said very low density polyolefin is an ethylene-octene copolymer.
5. (Previously Amended) The multi-layer thermoformable film of Claim 1, wherein said compatibilizer is an ethylene  $\alpha$ -olefin copolymer having a density less than 0.900 g/cm<sup>3</sup> with a melting point range of 55-75° C.
6. (**Currently Amended**) The multi-layer thermoformable film of Claim 1, wherein said compatibilizer is ~~TAFMER 1085a~~ a plastomer-type ethylene  $\alpha$ -olefin copolymer having a density of 0.88 g/cm<sup>3</sup>, a melt index of 1.4 (g/10 min), and a melting point of 71° C.
7. (Original) The multi-layer thermoformable film of Claim 1, wherein the outer layer has a thickness of about 45  $\mu$ m to 75  $\mu$ m.
8. (Original) The multi-layer thermoformable film of Claim 1, wherein the outer layer has a thickness of about 52  $\mu$ m to 63  $\mu$ m.
9. (Original) The multi-layer thermoformable film of Claim 1, wherein the outer layer has a thickness of about 55  $\mu$ m.

10. (Original) The multi-layer thermoformable film of Claim 1, further comprising a processing aid.

11. (Original) The multi-layer thermoformable film of Claim 10, wherein the processing aid comprises a fluoroelastomer.

12. (Original) The multi-layer thermoformable film of Claim 10, wherein the outer layer comprises about 200 to 2000 ppm of a processing aid.

13. (Original) The multi-layer thermoformable film of Claim 12, wherein the outer layer comprises about 1200 ppm of a processing aid.

14. (Original) The multi-layer thermoformable film of Claim 1, wherein the intermediate layer comprises a mixture of nylon 6,66 and amorphous nylon.

15. (Original) The multi-layer thermoformable film of Claim 1, wherein the intermediate layer comprises:

about 75% to 92% by weight of nylon 6,66 based on the total weight of the intermediate layer; and


about 8% to 25% by weight of amorphous nylon, based on the total weight of the intermediate layer.

16. (Original) The multi-layer thermoformable film of Claim 1, wherein the intermediate layer comprises:

about 80% by weight of nylon 6,66, based on the total weight of the intermediate layer; and

about 20% by weight of amorphous nylon, based on the total weight of the intermediate layer.

17. (Previously Amended) The multi-layer thermoformable film of Claim 14, wherein nylon 6,66 is an 85/15 copolymer with the 85 being the nylon 6 component and having a Differential Scanning Calorimeter melting point of 195-200 C.

 18. (Previously Amended) The multi-layer thermoformable film of Claim 14, wherein the amorphous nylon is a nylon having no measurable melting point as measured by Differential Scanning Calorimeter using ASTM 3417-83.

19. (Currently Amended) The amorphous nylon of Claim 14, wherein the amorphous nylon is ~~SELAR PA-3426~~ a polyamide 6I/6T resin having a density of 119 kg/m<sup>3</sup> and a glass transition temperature of 127° C.

20. (Original) The multi-layer thermoformable film of Claim 1, wherein the intermediate layer has a thickness of about 40  $\mu\text{m}$  to 60  $\mu\text{m}$ .

21. (Original) The multi-layer thermoformable film of Claim 1, wherein the intermediate layer has a thickness of about 45  $\mu\text{m}$  to 55  $\mu\text{m}$ .

22. (Original) The multi-layer thermoformable film of Claim 1, wherein the intermediate layer has a thickness of about 50  $\mu\text{m}$ .

23. (Original) The multi-layer thermoformable film of Claim 1, wherein the inner layer comprises a zinc ionomer.

24. (Currently Amended) The multi-layer thermoformable film of Claim 1, wherein the inner layer comprises ~~SURLYN-1650~~ a zinc salt of an ethylene/organic acid copolymer (zinc ionomer) having a melt index of 1.5 to 1.6 dg/min and a melting point of 94-97° C.

25. (Original) The multi-layer thermoformable film of Claim 1, wherein the inner layer comprises a sodium ionomer.

26. (Currently Amended) The multi-layer thermoformable film of Claim 1, wherein the inner layer comprises ~~SURLYN 1601~~ a sodium salt of an ethylene/organic acid copolymer (sodium ionomer) having a melt index of 1.3 dg/min and a melting point of 98° C.

27. (Original) The multi-layer thermoformable film of Claim 1, wherein the inner layer comprises a metallocene catalyzed ethylene-olefin copolymer.

28. (Currently Amended) The multi-layer thermoformable film of Claim 1, wherein the inner layer comprises ~~AFFINITY PL 1880~~ an ethylene  $\alpha$ -olefin resin having a density of 0.902 g/cc, a melting point of 99 to 100° C, and a melt index of 1.0 g/10 min.

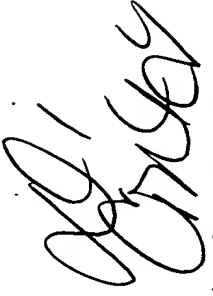
29. (Currently Amended) The multi-layer thermoformable film of Claim 1, wherein the inner layer has a thickness of greater than ~~about~~ 37  $\mu\text{m}$ .

30. (Original) The multi-layer thermoformable film of Claim 1, wherein the inner layer has a thickness of about 45  $\mu\text{m}$ .

31. (Original) The multi-layer thermoformable film of Claim 1, wherein at least one adhesive comprises anhydride modified polyolefin or polyolefin copolymer.

32. (Currently Amended) The multi-layer thermoformable film of Claim 1, wherein the at least one adhesive comprises ~~BYNEL 3095~~ an anhydride-modified ethylene vinyl acetate resin having a density of 0.925 g/cm<sup>3</sup>, a melt index of 2.3 dg/min, and a melting point of 102° C.

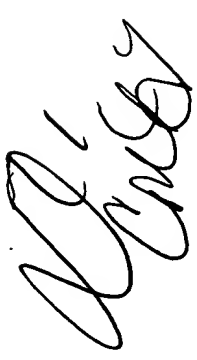
33. (Previously Amended) The multi-layer thermoformable film of Claim 1, wherein the at least one adhesive forms bonding interfaces between the outer layer and the intermediate layer, and between the intermediate layer and the inner layer, wherein said bonding interfaces have a thickness of about 5  $\mu\text{m}$  to 25  $\mu\text{m}$ .



34. (Previously Amended) The multi-layer thermoformable film of Claim 1, wherein the at least one adhesive forms bonding interfaces between the outer layer and the intermediate layer, and between the intermediate layer and the inner layer, wherein said bonding interfaces have a thickness of about 10  $\mu\text{m}$  to 20  $\mu\text{m}$ .

35. (Previously Amended) The multi-layer thermoformable film of Claim 1, wherein the at least one adhesive forms bonding interfaces between the outer layer and the intermediate layer, and between the intermediate layer and the inner layer, wherein said bonding interfaces have a thickness of about 15  $\mu\text{m}$ .

36. (**Cancelled**) A multi-layer thermoformable plastic film comprising:  
an outer layer comprising a blend of a very low density polyethylene, ethylene vinyl acetate, and a compatibilizer, wherein said very low density polyethylene is an ethylene  $\alpha$ -olefin copolymer having a density between 0.900 and 0.915  $\text{grams/cm}^3$  and said compatibilizer is an ethylene  $\alpha$ -olefin copolymer having a density less than 0.900  $\text{g/cm}^3$ ;  
an intermediate layer comprising a mixture of nylon copolymer and an amorphous nylon;  
an inner layer comprising a polyolefin or ionomeric polymer; and



at least one adhesive that bonds said outer, intermediate, and inner layers together,  
wherein the outer layer comprises a blend of:  
about 30% to 50% by weight very low density polyethylene, based on the total weight of the outer layer;  
about 30% to 45% by weight ethylene vinyl acetate, based on the total weight of the outer layer; and  
about 10% to 24% by weight of a compatibilizer, based on the total weight of the outer layer.

37. **(Cancelled)** A multi-layer thermoformable plastic film comprising:  
an outer layer comprising a blend of a very low density polyethylene, ethylene vinyl acetate, and a compatibilizer, wherein said very low density polyethylene is an ethylene  $\alpha$ -olefin copolymer having a density between 0.900 g/cm<sup>3</sup> and 0.915 g/cm<sup>3</sup>;  
an intermediate layer comprising a mixture of nylon copolymer and an amorphous nylon;  
an inner layer comprising a polyolefin or ionomeric polymer; and  
at least one adhesive that bonds said outer, intermediate, and inner layers together,  
wherein said compatibilizer is an ethylene  $\alpha$ -olefin copolymer having a density less than 0.900 with a melting point range of 55-75° C.
38. **(Cancelled)** A multi-layer thermoformable plastic film comprising:  
an outer layer comprising a blend of a very low density polyolefin, ethylene vinyl acetate, and a compatibilizer;  
an intermediate layer comprising a mixture of nylon copolymer and an amorphous nylon;



an inner layer comprising a polyolefin or ionomeric polymer; and  
at least one adhesive that bonds said outer, intermediate, and inner layers  
together,

wherein the intermediate layer comprises:

about 75% to 92% by weight on nylon 6,66 based on the total weight of  
the intermediate layer; and

about 8% to 25% by weight of amorphous nylon, based on the total  
weight of the intermediate layer.

39. **(New)** The multi-layer thermoformable film of Claim 1, in combination  
with a closing film, where the closing film is in contact with and heat sealed to the  
inner layer of the multi-layer thermoformable film.

40. **(New)** The multi-layer thermoformable film of Claim 39, where the inner  
layer of the multi-layer thermoformable film is in contact with a foodstuff.